REMARKS

The amendments to the claims are merely covert each of claims 7-9 to independent form without altering the limitations thereof and are made to make such claims independent of the non-elected claims. Such amendments are not for purposes of patentability.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned via telephone at the number provided, if it is determined that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted, Thompson Coburn LLP

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